Caxton Celebration. Class A.

27. Propositio Johannis Russell. A second copy.

Lent by the Earl of Leicester.

Last page. These two are the only copies known.

[illegible]

In Ashmole's Order of the Garter, published A.D. 1672.

[illegible] the Register [illegible] the Order [illegible] a broad; [illegible] [illegible] made [illegible] the principal [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] 5. 4. &c.

Page 391.

[illegible] the Doctors of the Civil Laws, [illegible] the Country [illegible] the better [illegible] to make answer to such questions, as the Stranger= =[illegible] might [illegible] dispensable of [illegible] the Statutes, but also [illegible] the Institution of the Order or other historical passages, relating to the Founder, the preceding [illegible]

to present Knights Companions, a drawing of the Garter, all which (if judiciously and accurately rendered) might add reputation to the Order, and get in the Stranger-Steel the better to be seen of it.

Beside an Ecclesiastical person was in those times thought fittest to admonish the Knights, and to pronounce the word of admonition, at the time of investiture with the habit and Ensigns of the Order.

And for these reasons was John Russell, Doctor of the Civil Law and Archdeacon of Berkshire, joined in Commission with the aforesaid Gilliard. Item de Dacres page 392.

John Russell was a Privy Councillor, vide Commission. Appendix no LXII.

Certificate from Charles Duke of Burgundy of having received the Order. Appendix no. CXIV.

Propositio clarissimi Oratoris Magistri Iohannis Russell Ambassiatoris Regis Edwardi ad Karolum Ducem Burgundiæ super susceptione Ordinis Garterii &c _ 4to

Without place date or name of printer but printed in 1469 by Caxton when he was in the Low Countries. "Although no printer's name is affixed to this oration, a glance will convince those who are conversant with early typography, that it is undoubtedly the production of Caxton's press; and that the types are the same with which the "Jason" the "Dictes and Sayeings" the "Virgil" and the greater number of his books, were printed". Dr Dibdin.

This is the second book printed by Caxton (the "Recueil des histoires de Troyes" being the first) and the only copy known besides the Holkham one, is at Althorp which was purchased by Earl Spencer in 1819 for £126.

C.1. A5

Propoſitio Clariſſimi Oratoris. Magiſtri Jo
hannis Ruſſelk decretorum doctoris ac adtunc
Ambaſſiatoris xpianiſſimi Regis Edwardi
dei gracia regis Anglie et Francie ad illuſtriſ
ſimū principem / Karolum ducem Burgundie
ſuper ſuſceptione ordinis garterij ⁊c.

DEſtinauit nos Illuſtriſſime princeps Sa
cra regia mageſtas vt tue celſitudini pre
lebria ſui ordinis garterij inſignia ad quem per
collegas illius glorioſe ſocietatis tam ſpectabile
xpiani orbis faſtigium vti pulcherrimū futurꝝ
illius ordinis ornamentum digniſſimi delectum
eſt debitis honoribus offeramus. Optantes igi
tur i primis ab imortali deo tanti primordij proſ
peros in euum ſucceſſus delectat paululum hui9
nouelli federis decus. vtilitatem preſtanciam ꝗ
rimari. quatenus nec inanis aut ſupuacua mi
litariū collegiorꝝ reputetur inuencio. Habeant ꝗ
fideles amborꝝ principū vnde peculiari9 debeant
ꝗtulari. Nam ſi res ab noſtra memoria ꝓpter
vetuſtatem remotas. ex litterarꝝ monimentis

ſempiterna recordatione dignis/Que nimirum collegia ſicuti iam diu maioris preſtancioris qȝ fame inter cetera computari meruerant/Jta et rebus ipſis ac pſonaꝝ meritis alioꝝ quorumli bet apparatuum pompam quintmo et omnē ſimi lem ornatū ſeculi ſuperare credūtur/Nec vllis vnquā temporibus aut hunc aut illum ordinē celebracōnem fuiſſe credimus/quam preſenti eta te noſtra in qua vtriqȝ principi moderno bene= placitū eſſe videmus Alterius ſe ſe mutuo ſuo rum ordinum decorare inſigniis/vt qui in vno preſidet/in altero quodāmodo ſe ſummittat/ſic qȝ ſuum carum habeat vt et reliquum ad quem applicari voluit pariter honorabilē ipſo ſuo facto oſtendere nō detractet/Hec ſunt magnifice prin ceps et tua et regis mei ineternū recolenda pre conia/Hec fortiſſima fraternitatis vincula ke riſſima dilectione ſigna/Jam enī noſtri glorio ſiſſimi Edwardi regium collum velleris aurei torque circumdatur. Et iam potentiſſimi ducis principis procul dubio. iuſticia. fide. veritate. ac omnium rerum ordine probatiſſimi et inſignis

Generoſum genu ſpectabilis garterij cingulo
accingetur Jlle vero rex noſter tuarum dignita
tum zelator feruentiſſimus/ordinem tuum ſin
cerum colit et veneratur. Tua ſublimitas am
plexabitur viſceroſe. obſeruabit qꝫ ſuum/Jlle
tuus confrater in ordine tuo/tu illius conſors
in ordine ſuo. Et ecce res noua maxima vtri
uſqꝫ ſubditorum gratulatione digna/quando
duo tanti principes ſemel ſororis contubernio
fratres effecti iam. iam iterum atqꝫ tercio in
aliud legitimū genus fraternitatis coincidunt
Nam quis non ſperet indiuidue Trinitatis
opus exiſtere/ſua qꝫ opitulante gracia diuiſio
nem capere non debere. Hanc triformis trinita
tis plantacionem nouam meo arbitrio quis in
uidet aut aliter videt. Hec eſt plantatio celeſ
tis que non eradicabitur/quoniam vt ſapiētis
dicto fidem habeamus. Funiculus triplex diffi
cile rumpitur. Eya ergo Jnuictiſſime princeps
ſuſcipiat iā libens illa ſeculo noſtro vnice ſpec
tata magnificencia tua. xpianiſſimi bellatoris
Georgij ſancti religionem/accingere cingulo

repetere curaremus. Pleraſqꝫ firmiſſiās ſocieta
tes. multas ſanctiſſiās amicicias/ligas/cōcor
dias/quib⁹ hūane ſepenumero nacōnes/ultro
citoqꝫ adiute releuate qꝫ fuerint. Corā ī mediū
afferre fas foret/tanta ſiquidē hiſtoriaꝝ copia
Ut ipas ānumerātes facilius tempore quā mul
titudine careremus/tot eīm ab exordio naſcenciū
populoꝝ extitere cauſe principes federādi/tot oc
caſiones hominem homini cōſiliandi/tot demqꝫ
neceſſitates/eciā diuerſaꝝ linguaꝝ gentes ad
unius animi motum cōſonanciā qꝫ reducendi
Qd ſi hac cōſuetudine ſpreta ſinguli ſuoꝝ ſen
ſuū procerima ducerētur/alter qꝫ alterius qd
abſit conſorciū amiciciā ve horreret/quid aliud
quin ipm demio tempus/de quo Cicero ī rethori
cis cōmemorat rediiſſe putarem⁹/qn homines
tectis ſilueſtrib⁹ abditi ſparſim ī agris beſtiaꝝ
more vagabātur/et ſibi victu ferino vitā inhu
manit ꝑpagabant. Sed tandē ſubintrauit me
lioris racōis vſus/dum homo ſe animal ſociale
plaſmatū quandā inter oēs cognacōem/qua
hominē homini inſidiari nephas ſit natura ipſa

conſtitutã intelligens/quodã mutue aſſociatio nis deſiderio indies vehement afficitur. Ex quo igitur ſocialis nature fonte/omnis ordo/omnis religio/Omnis vnanimis cetus ſcaturijt. ab inde qꝫ proceſſit/vt q̄ꝫ plurimi militares viri quoꝝ natura vt plurimũ feroꝝ eſſe ſolet/modeſ tiam/obedienciã qꝫ pene religioſam profitentis diuinis aliquociens rebus cultu et habitu/orãdo obſecrãdo. offerendo mira celebritate inſeruiauit taliter quidē duplicium officioꝝ viciſſitudinem moderantes vt et in p̄lijs ſtrenuitate/in tēplo vera deuotione ac pietate quoſlibet antecellant Et ne nimis longe huius p̄cellentis obſeruan tie queramus exēpla/poſt ipſam rotunde tabule fraternitatē/in qua temporibus victorioſiſſimi regis arthuri. tot reges. tot principes. ac baro nes militaribus inſigniti cingulis cōuiuebant duo ſeorſũ egregia militanciũ collegia decencius honorificentius qꝫ ſtabilita ſunt/vnũ ab illuſ triſſimo Edwardo tercio illius nōie angloꝝ rege. Alterum ab excellentiſſimo genitore tuo Philippo duce/Duobus ſiquidem principibus

milicie ſocietatis eius/ Induere clamidem ordi
nis quaſi armaturam fidei ipſius/ honoret amodo
vniuerſum collegium. tue ſingularis pſone me
ritum ſingulare/ Vt qui hactenus in virtute cru
cis piiſſimi andree maximoꝝ hoſtium tociens
incredibilis victor euaſeras/ De cetero glorioſo
iſto martire nouo accumulato patrono/ valeat
tua in eum ſancta deuotio ſimul et in ipſius vi
uifico ſigno vbi res expoſtulauerit egregie triū
phare ad dei laudem/ et exaltationem fidei xpia
ne/ noſtri qȝ ſereniſſimi regis robur. ſolacium re
uelationem qȝ/ et gloriam plebis ſue. amen

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